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63THE HAVANA EXPEDITION OF 1762 IN THE WAR
WITH SPAIN.

BY

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On the 18th day of May, 1756, Great Britain formally declared war against France.

This compliment was speedily returned with the utmost heartiness by France, whose government saw an opportunity of attacking to advantage the Hanoverian possessions of George II., upon which it was believed, with reason, his affections were more strongly fixed than upon any other of the royal dominions.

The grounds of the British declaration of war were the encroachments of the French on the Ohio and in Nova Scotia; the non-evacuation of four neutral islands in the West Indies as required by the previous treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle; and the invasion of Minorca.

A condition of practical war had existed in North America for a considerable time along the borders between the English on the one side and the French, with their Indian allies, on the other, and the formal declaration merely brought into the problem regularly organized combatant forces for regular military operations.

This war, the most glorious ever conducted by the British arms—under the greatest of her statesmen, William Pitt—was

entered upon with great heartiness by the American Colonies.

Major-General James Abercrombie, who had arrived from England at New York in March, 1756, became Commander-in-Chief.

The quotas of Provincial or Colony troops required for the campaign then begun were, 3,500 from Massachusetts, 1,000 from Rhode Island, 1,000 from New Hampshire, and 1,250 from Connecticut, but this last named Colony voluntarily doubled her quota and sent 2,500 men into the field.

South Carolina also furnished four independent companies.

It is not intended in the limits of this paper to enter into the details of this War with France. It formed the school for the Colonies in the art of war for the subsequent Revolution.

A little idea may be formed of the number of Provincials who served in this war under the British flag, from the fact that in 1755 Massachusetts alone raised 8,000 soldiers, about one-third of her able-bodied population. Baron Dieskau's defeat in September, 1755, was wholly due to Provincials. In 1756 Abercrombie had 7,000 Provincials, of which Connecticut raised 2,500,—more than double the number required of her. In 1758 Massachusetts raised 6,800 men, of these 2,500 served in garrison at Louisbourg, and 300 joined Wolfe before Quebec. There were 14 Provincial regiments under Major-General Abercrombie at Lake George and Ticonderoga in 1758, and the Provincials lost 422, killed, wounded and missing.

In 1759 Massachusetts sent over 7,000 men into the field, or nearly one-sixth of her able-bodied population.

Connecticut raised that year 5,000 and New York 1,000.

Lord Amherst at the capture of Ticonderoga had 5,743 regulars and an equal number of Provincials.

The massacre of Fort William Henry, the bloody repulse at Ticonderoga and death of the gallant Lord Howe, the capture of Fort Niagara, and Wolfe's glorious campaign against Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham before Quebec, are historic events well known to the student of American history.

In all of them the Provincials had freely shed their blood, and sustained their disproportionate share of military burdens.

In September, 1760, by the capture of Montreal and its de-

pendencies, the whole Dominion of France in North America passed to the British Crown. The conquest of Canada was complete and the Colonies no longer had reason to fear hostile incursions from the North or West.

Nevertheless, the war continued unabated and the Provincials furnished their quotas of troops which, during 1761, were employed in garrison duty, and in the erection and repairs of roads, barracks and permanent works.

At the close of the campaign of 1761 it was decided to attack the French West India possessions.

Major-General, The Honorable Robert Monckton, Governor of New York, was charged with the military operations, and sailed from New York harbor with eleven regiments of regulars and a force of Provincials, and having been joined at Barbadoes by Rear-Admiral Rodney's fleet and reinforcements making an effective force of 18 battalions, besieged Fort Royal, which capitulated February 4, 1762, and ten days later the conquest of the whole Island of Martinico was effected.

This was followed by the capture of the islands of St. Lucie, Grenada and St. Vincent.

We now come to the War with Spain, and the particular events which this paper is intended to elucidate.

For five years a general war had existed in Europe, and in 1761, France, which was much exhausted, made the first move towards a peace, which was seconded by the Courts of St. Petersburg, Vienna, Sweden and Poland, and acquiesced in by the Courts of London and Berlin.

Spain had, heretofore, maintained neutrality, but France, by reason of the close relations of the two houses of Bourbon, hoped, with reason, to secure her active intervention to prevent the total annihilation of French influence in the West Indies.

It is not necessary to consider the points raised in the negotiations, the principle one of *uti possidetis* being urged on both sides, and vigorous exertions were, at the same time, made to capture as much of the enemy's territory as possible before the principle should be applied.

While the negotiations were in progress in April, 1761, the

efforts of the Court of Versailles succeeded and Spain intervened.

This came around through the French Agent in London, M. Bussy, insisting, in a private memorial, that Spain might be invited to accede to guaranty the proposed treaty, and that the difficulties between Great Britian and Spain should be finally settled by the restitution of some captures made by the British upon the Spanish flag, and that Great Britian should give Spain the privilege to fish on the banks of New Foundland.

Mr. Pitt rejected with the utmost scorn this proposition from an humbled enemy like France to negotiate through a power actually or seemingly in friendship, and returned his memorial as inadmissible and affronting to the dignity of the King.

At the same time he directed Lord Bristol, the British Envoy at Madrid, to remonstrate with firmness against such unexampled irregularity.

Already, however, France and Spain had privately concluded and signed a family treaty of date August 25, 1761, by which they agreed to support each other offensively and defensively.

Mr. Pitt saw that the propositions submitted by France for peace were really intended to cause disagreement, and accordingly gave an ultimatum.

The Court of Versailles delayed their reply until September 1, 1761, after the family compact had been signed, and Mr. Pitt had strong reason to believe that, had this reply been accepted by Great Britian, nevertheless the French Agent, M. Bussy, had secret orders not to sign.

From this time events hastened apace. Eleven English merchant ships with Spanish pilots aboard were, while in Spanish waters and within Spanish territorial jurisdiction, permitted by the Spanish Government to be captured by a French privateer in violation of the Law of Nations and then condemned in a *Spanish* Prize Court against the protest of the British Ambassador.

The determination of the Court of Spain to come to an open rupture became thus manifest to the English people, both in Great Britian and in the Colonies.

Mr. Pitt saw that war was unavoidable and, in order to put England in a better military position to meet her new adversary, directed the expedition from New York under Major-General Monckton, which captured the French West Indies.

War was really begun by Spain, without formal declaration, by the before described flagrant violation of the Law of Nations and also by the detention of British ships in her ports and the restraint laid on British subjects in His Most Catholic Majesty's dominions and by a diplomatic fulmination of war, dated December 25, 1761, by the Spanish Monarch against Mr. Pitt *personally*—a most remarkable document well worth being studied.

On January 4, 1762, His Britannic Majesty declared war against Spain, and on January 16, 1762, the Most Catholic King returned the compliment.

It is not necessary to describe to this audience Havana or El Moro Castle. In 1762 it was a place of the greatest importance to the Spaniards and called by them, not without reason, "The Key to the West Indies."

It was the place of rendezvous for their fleets and treasure ships on their return from that quarter of the world to Spain. In fact, the whole trade and navigation of the Spanish West Indies, Spanish Main and Mexico centered there, and without that harbor could not well be carried on. Its conquest therefore exposed all Spanish America to military operations of the English, and would, it was believed, practically finish the war.

Havana then had about 30,000 inhabitants of all sorts besides its Spanish garrison, and was well fortified.

Conquest in the West Indies had ever been a favorite scheme with English statesmen.

Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England, with far-seeing sagacity had essayed the capture of Jamaica in 1655 with a fleet under Admiral Penn and a land force under General Venables.

Charles II., although not fond of wars, endeavored to frighten Spain into a compliance to grant England an equal share of commerce with herself in the West Indies.

William III. sent three expeditions to the West Indies, one

in 1689 of eight (8) ships and regiments ; a second in 1691, of eight (8) ships and a land force, and a third in 1692, consisting of fifteen (15) men-of-war, three (3) fire ships and 1,500 soldiers, but every one of these proved ineffectual.

In the war declared against Spain on October 23, 1739, to the great joy of all Great Britain, an expedition was sent under the gallant Vice-Admiral, Edward Vernon, who captured Porto Bello with six ships, for which Parliament gave him a vote of thanks. Ten thousand dollars in money, 40 brass cannon, 10 field pieces, and other valuable stores were the result of this expedition.

In February, 1741, Carthagena on the Spanish Main was attacked, unsuccessfully, but the fevers of the country almost destroyed the besieging forces and forced the siege to be raised in May following, and the expedition then sailed for Jamaica.

From here, in July, 1741, Vice-Admiral Vernon sailed with his fleet and remaining land forces to attack St. Iago, or Santiago as now written, the then capital of Cuba, on the south-east side of that island. The troops were debarked and went into camp, which from the nature of the soil, vegetation and climate, proved very sickly. The difficulties at the mouth of the harbor of St. Iago were found so great that the fleet could not co-operate, and the siege could not be successfully prosecuted, and on November 20, 1741, all re-embarked, to return to Jamaica.

A melancholy interest attaches to this first Carthagena and Santiago expedition because of the number of American Provincials engaged in it and the terrible losses they experienced.

Massachusetts furnished about 1,000 soldiers of whom only about 100 returned.

Connecticut sent about 500 men of whom only about 50 returned.

The other colonies furnished but few, if any, soldiers.

Lawrence Washington, a brother of George Washington, was in this first expedition, and Mount Vernon was subsequently named after Vice-Admiral Vernon who commanded the naval forces.

A curious fact appears in a dispatch from Admiral Vernon, when in Cuba, to the Duke of Newcastle, dated November 3, 1741, in which he said he believed "the principal motive of all the American officers engaging in the service was the hope of being settled in the West Indies and in Cuba preferable to all other places."

Other unsuccessful expeditions were undertaken in that Spanish War, notably against Panama, La Guira, Port Cavallo, and even against St. Iago de Cuba, but the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, in October, 1748, conditioned on restoration of all conquests, terminated that War with Spain.

Great Britain had captured from Spain 1,249 ships, and from France 2,185, while Spain had captured 1,360 ships from the British, or 111 more. France had, however, captured but 1,878 ships from the English, or 307 less, making in all 196 in excess captured by the British.

Some of the prizes taken from the Spaniards, however, were of enormous value and on the whole the balance in favor of Great Britain was estimated at two million pounds sterling.

The losses incurred by Spain in the nine years' war, which thus terminated in 1748, undoubtedly rankled in the Spanish official mind and caused the before recited treacherous interposition in 1761, which compelled the British Declaration of War of 1762.

Upon this rupture with Spain, Admiral Knowles submitted to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland a plan of an expedition against Havana.

After considering it, Lord Anson, First Lord of the Admiralty, submitted another instead, which was approved.

Lieutenant-General, the Earl of Albermarle, a friend and disciple of the Duke of Cumberland, was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the land forces, and Sir George Pocock, Knight of the Bath, Admiral of the Blue, was appointed to the command of the naval forces.

The British fleet sailed from Portsmouth, England, March 5, 1762, and was reinforced at Cape Nichola, the northwest point of Hispaniola, on May 27, 1762.

It was determined by the British Ministry that certain of

the American Colonies should also be called upon to contribute to the expedition.

For a long time the British Government had tried to recruit her regular regiments which were stationed in America from among the Provincials.

At its urgent solicitation, Colonial Assemblies had passed acts giving bounties to such as would thus enlist.

Great reluctance was, however, exhibited by the Americans to enlist in the regular service.

The American was willing to volunteer for six months or a year for duty anywhere on the North American Continent, but not to go abroad.

To induce him to enter the regular service, the "Royal American Regiment" was raised in New York. This regiment was, after the Revolution, known as the "Duke of York's Regiment," and is now the 60th Foot, "Royal Rifles." It did not, however, when recruited in the Colonies, enlist more than a moiety of the Provincials, and was completed by English-born denizens.

The next scheme of the British Ministry was to organize Independent *Regular* Infantry Companies in the Colonies, and of this class four were raised in New York and three in South Carolina, besides three companies of Rangers, all, however, on the Regular establishment.

To overcome the reluctance of the Americans to engage in the "Havana Expedition," after their terrible experience of twenty years before, it was necessary to involve it in mystery. The war against Spain had been declared at Whitehall on January 4, 1762, and was formally proclaimed in New York City at Fort George, facing the Bowling Green, on April 3, 1762, in the presence of the Council of the Province and the militia under arms.

The proclamation was read by Mr. Banyer of the Council, and three hearty cheers were then given by the militia and assembled citizens.

On the day before, April 2, 1762, Lieutenant-General Sir Jeffery Amherst, K. B., Commander of the forces in British North America, from his headquarters in New York City, wrote to

Lieutenant-Governor Cadwalader Colden, the Acting Governor of the Province of New York, a remarkably deceptive letter, in order to obtain from the two New York militia regiments, then in Colony service, enough volunteers to fill the quota, then designated by him, of the Province of New York to serve against the Spanish in the deadly climate of Cuba.

The letter was as follows:—

Sir:—

By the Enterprize man of war, I have been honored with His Majesty's commands for forming a detachment of Regulars and Provincials, to be embarked at this place, on an expedition of the utmost importance. That I may comply with the King's orders as early as possible, I have fixed upon the number of Provincials to be employed on this service, and have been as sparing in their numbers as the nature of the service would permit, *tho' I am confident it will be very agreeable to them, since they will meet with every indulgence and will not be subject to the fatigue that they have gone through in the long marches in former campaigns, and that as soon as the service is effected, which cannot be of long duration, they shall immediately return to New York.*

The number I am to require from your Province is 553 men, with one Colonel, one Field Officer, and other officers in proportion to the above number, and I leave it to you to form them either from one regiment or by detachments from the two, whichever you think can be soonest effected.

These men will require nothing more from the province than has been usually given them for they shall be furnished with every requisite on their assembling for the expedition.

I need not, I am persuaded, add any arguments to induce you to give immediate orders for hastening the formation of the above quota as a moment's time is not to be lost in putting His Majesty's commands in execution, and I have only to request that while this service is forwarding, care may be taken that it may not retard the completing of the remainder of the quota demanded by the King, as also furnishing the recruits for the Regular Regiments, as their services will be

essentially requisite for the prosecution of a war wherein the Honor of His Majesty's Crown, the welfare of His subjects and the prosperity of His Kingdoms are so nearly concerned.

I am, with great regard,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble servant,

JEFF. AMHERST.

General Amherst, as Commander-in-Chief, wrote identical letters to the Governors of Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, but prescribed different quotas for each.

That of Rhode Island was, for example, 207 men, 1 Field Officer, 2 Captains, and the other quotas here in proportion to greater population.

The specious and intentionally misleading character of General Amherst's letter cannot be overlooked.

He knew that the people of New England and New York, in consequence of the great loss of life incurred in the Santiago Expedition of twenty years before, had a horror of service in the deadly climate of Cuba during the rainy season, and consequently, in order to secure compliance, he descended to the arts of the recruiting serjeant in obtaining "Gentlemen Volunteers."

He had been privately informed of the destination of the expedition, and that the principal portion of the regular forces had, probably, already sailed from England. He knew that the enemy's fortified works at Havana were deemed by military men to be almost impregnable and that the climate was deadly at the season when operations would have to be conducted. He knew also that no success could be achieved in a siege or assault without very great loss of life, and almost unparalleled fatigue and labor.

Yet he calmly wrote to the Colonial Governors who were to furnish quotas, and said as an inducement to the Provincials to enlist, that the nature of the service would "be very agreeable

to them since they will meet with every indulgence and will not be subject to the fatigue that they have gone through in the long marches of former campaigns."

The New York Assembly, however, became apprehensive of deception and made official inquiry through Acting Governor Colden, to which, on May 20, 1762, from his headquarters in New York, Lieut.-Gen. Amherst replied as follows:—

"I have just now your letter acquainting me of your having received a private message from the Assembly wherein they inform you that the obstructions to the enlistments arise from an apprehension which generally prevails that the 553 men to be embarked of the Provincial Troops in the pay of this Province are to be sent to the West Indies and to be compelled to enlist with the Regulars and therefore desiring assurance from me that the Provincial Troops in the pay of the Province are to be employed on the Continent of North America only, and that they shall be returned to the Province as soon as their service is over without being compelled to enlist in the Regular Service.

With regard to the apprehension of compelling the men to enlist into the Regular Service I need only refer you to my letter of the 2d of April wherein I requested the quota intended for the Expedition, and I should be sorry if anyone should entertain such an opinion of me that I would execute His Majesty's commands so ill as to make use of any deceptions in requiring the men ordered on service.

Their destination must remain a secret for the present as I am not at liberty to divulge it, but by my forementioned letter you will see that the Provincial Troops are to return as soon as the service on which they are going is effected. * * * I can't help expressing my concern to find that there are only 377 men of the New York Detachment as yet embarked, so that there are still wanting to complete 176 men, although both the Rhode Island and Jersey Detachments are complete and on board, and that I am informed the quota demanded from Connecticut is also embarked and I expect them here hourly."

General Amherst, it will be perceived, was not very frank in his latest communication and intentionally evaded the assurance asked for by Governor Colden that the Provincials were to be employed only on the Continent of North America.

Judging from this correspondence, the conclusion is unavoidable that the Provincial Forces who went on this Havana Expedition of 1762, *did not know where they were going and had no idea they were to be employed in the Spanish West Indies.*

General Amherst tried to impress provisions in New York for the expedition at market rates and secured an impress warrant from Governor Colden and the Council, but certain citizens sturdily refused compliance. Among these were Nathaniel Marston, Robert Rich, John Ray, John Provoost, Robert Townshend and John Berrian.

Attorney-General Kempe of the Province of New York was appealed to by the Governor, but in a reply dated April 18, 1762, said he could find no law authorizing such impress.

All the Colonies (Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey) voted bounties or supplies for those who should enlist.

New York voted, on May 21, 1762, forty shillings bounty to each man.

At this time all these Colonies had actually in service and under pay very heavy quotas in proportion to their population and ability.

The quota of New York for the year 1762 was 1,787 officers and men, who were organized into Provincial regiments. In addition to these the New York Assembly voted bounties of £10 to each of the 479 men who had enlisted in the Province in the regular regiments.

The only wonder is, considering the population and resources of these American Colonies, where they found enough available able-bodied men to meet these continued requisitions of the British Ministry.

They were, however, deadly in earnest and appreciated much more keenly than did the rural Englishman on his farm or estate in England what a war with France and Spain meant to the Colonies.

On March 5, 1762, Admiral Sir George Pocock sailed with his fleet of five ships of the Line from Portsmouth, England, convoying 30 transports containing the regular land forces under the Earl of Albemarle, besides 19 store or commissariat ships and eight ships loaded with artillery and military stores.

Six days later chase was given to a large French merchant ship, which was overtaken and made prize. She had a crew of 230 men, and was laden with coffee and pepper.

A violent storm separated the fleet, but in April they were all reunited in Barbadoes, from whence they went to Martinico and found additional troops.

Here the army was divided into five Brigades. A battalion of Light Infantry and a battalion of Grenadiers were placed under Colonel Sir Guy Carleton who, twenty years later, commanded the British army in New York.

Many names appear in this list who subsequently served against the Americans in the War of the Revolution.

Sir William Howe who subsequently commanded at "Brandywine" and "Germantown" was the Adjutant-General and, of course, became well known to many of the Provincial officers.

The fleet, having been reinforced in the West Indies, consisted of 19 ships of the line, 18 frigates and three bomb-ketches.

In Havana Harbor the Spaniards had 12 ships of the line and three frigates.

Moro Castle, the principal fortification, was defended by 154 guns and 11 mortars.

The total effective regular Spanish forces at Havana, including soldiers, sailors and marines, amounted to 13,610. These, with 14,000 militia, including people of color, raised the total force for defense to 27,610.

The British began the siege with 12,041 effective regular troops, exclusive of the American Provincials who afterward arrived.

This effective force included a company of negroes raised for the campaign, in Jamaica.

The employment of blacks in a military capacity was thus

found to be satisfactory. Subsequently Count D'Estaing had a battalion of mulattoes and free negroes in the French contingent at the siege of Savannah in 1779, and the Continental Congress authorized during the Revolution the raising of three regiments in the South.

Many negroes, it may be remarked, were also found during our Revolution serving in the ranks of the Continental regiments from Rhode Island, Virginia and other States.

On May 6, 1762, Admiral Sir George Pocock sailed from Martinico, and on June 7th the whole army was landed without opposition on the Island of Cuba, about six miles to the eastward of Moro Castle.

In a contemporary journal of these operations, it is recorded as follows:—

“June 11, Colonel Guy Carleton attacked and took possession of the heights of the Cavannas where the enemy had cleared away some ground, intending a redoubt.

These heights partly commanded the Moro, but entirely the town and harbor. This attack was conducted with that skill and bravery which Colonel Carleton has manifested on many occasions, and the loss he had in the attack is scarce to be mentioned.”

Why the Spaniards should have neglected this important point it is now impossible to say.

Next day, June 12, 1762, the Siege of the Moro was begun.

Meanwhile the enemy had been vigorously strengthening their works and defending the entrance to the harbor by sinking several large ships in the narrow channel.

From the Journal of the Chief Engineer at this remarkable siege, and from other authentic sources a glimpse is had of the indomitable resolution, pluck, tenacity and bulldog determination exhibited by the English which eventually crowned their labors with success.

The hardships they sustained were almost inexpressible.

The earth was everywhere so thin that it was with great difficulty the besiegers could cover themselves in their approaches.

There was no spring nor river near them, and water for drinking and cooking purposes had to be brought from a great distance. Indeed, so scanty and precarious was the supply that the army was obliged to have recourse to water from the ships.

One can imagine how vile such water must have become after long transport and in such a hot climate.

Roads for communication had to be cut through thick tropical woods, and the artillery had to be dragged many miles over a rough rocky shore. A number of men dropped dead with heat, thirst and fatigue, but such was the indomitable resolution of our people, such the happy and perfect unanimity which subsisted between the land and the sea services, that no difficulties, no hardships, slackened for a moment the operations against this important, strong and well-defended place.

Batteries were, in spite of all difficulties, raised against the Moro, and along the hill upon which that fort stood, in order to drive the Spanish ships deeper into the harbor and thus prevent them from interfering with the siege.

For a long time the fire maintained by the Spaniards and English was near on an equality, and kept up with great vivacity on both sides.

On June 29th the Spaniards, who are particularly tenacious in defense, were repulsed, with a loss of 220 killed, wounded and prisoners, mostly mulattoes and negroes, from which it became apparent that they were saving their real Spanish troops for more important work.

On July 1st the British ships of the line, "Cambridge," 80, "Dragon," 74, and "Marlborough," 70, sailed in with the sea breeze close to the Moro, and opened a furious fire.

Never did British naval courage show more gloriously. The attack was spirited, but unsuccessful.

The ships came under a fire which was not only a plunging one from the Moro, but a raking one from the Town Batteries, and finally withdrew, badly shattered, and with a loss of 157, killed and wounded.

On July 3d the great besieging battery took fire from dryness of the fascines, there having been no rain for two weeks,

and was totally destroyed. Thus was the labor of seventeen days by 500 or 600 men destroyed in a few hours. It was a mortifying and dispiriting stroke of misfortune as the hardships of the siege had become almost insupportable. Yellow fever had increased greatly, and what with rigorous service and an unwholesome country, bad provisions, bad and insufficient water supply, heat and exposure, the army was soon reduced by half, and the labors of the remainder doubled.

No less than 5,000 soldiers and 3,000 sailors were taken down of the fevers and distempers prevailing in the lowlands of Cuba.

The hurricane season was nigh at hand, but these indomitable English kept on. New batteries arose in the place of the old ones. Their fire soon became equal and then superior to the Spanish.

Eighteen heavy guns played on the works, and when they became disabled, as often happened, others were dragged with infinite labor to take their places.

The Spaniards were found to display unexpected bravery; or, as the Journal of the British Chief Engineer says:—

“The Morro was now found to be tougher work and the Spaniards more resolute than was at first imagined.” On July 4th he records that the reinforcements from America were much wished for and *much wanted*.

Four hundred marines were now landed with 300 seamen to assist at the batteries.

Stubbornly the English fire was kept up, but as the Spaniards had free access to the town, they repaired, by the aid of slaves, their batteries, and on July 10, 11 and 12, their fire was superior to the English, who then, with unshaken courage, began to erect more batteries.

The sickness greatly increased, and the heat in the blazing sun was terrific; nevertheless, a new four-gun battery of thirty-two pounders was opened and annoyed the enemy very much, keeping up a continual fire on the fort.

On July 18th the enemy made a sally from the town and spiked a three-gun battery, but were quickly repulsed.

Next day the English Engineers made approaches up to the glacis and carried on a sap towards the counterscarp, and on July 20th got possession of the covered way.

Two days later a sally of the Spaniards was repulsed, and they lost 400 dead, many wounded, and seventy prisoners.

In repulsing them Colonel Guy Carleton, now a Brigadier, was wounded in the arm.

Our Chief Engineer in his Journal says, this sallying detachment of Spaniards "behaved with great treachery, asking quarter, seeming to surrender themselves, and then stabbing our officers and men as they advanced to receive them. A flag of truce was sent in and this was complained of; they took the opportunity to desire to bury their dead, which was granted."

Meanwhile the English engineers kept diligently at work with their mines; but our friend, the engineer, adds, "Our people were now so reduced by sickness that we had but a melancholy prospect."

On July 28th arrived the first detachment of regulars and Provincial Troops from America in eleven transports under convoy of the "Intrepid," a sixty-four-gun ship, which left New York on June 11th.

While en route four other transports of this detachment and a forty-gun ship ran on a key on the Cuba side, at the entrance of Bahama Straits and were stranded an hour before daylight on July 24th, and lost, but fortunately all the troops were landed.

Admiral Sir George Pocock sent transports to take off the seamen and Provincials, and bring them to Havana. Among those thus shipwrecked were Israel Putnam, afterward Senior Major-General of the Continental Army of the Revolution, but then a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Connecticut Provincial Regiment.

The first detachment which came from New York amounted to 1,400 men, under Brigadier-General Burton, and were landed on July 26th on the western side to reinforce Colonel Howe, whose detachment was scarce able from sickness to defend themselves.

Two days later, on July 30th, about two in the afternoon, the mines were sprung which the English engineers had long been preparing.

The one in the counterscarp had a very inconsiderable effect, but that in the bastion, having thrown down a part of both faces, made a practicable breach.

An assault was at once ordered, which was led by Lieutenant Charles Forbes of the Royals. The breach was rapidly mounted under heavy fire and the enemy driven from the ramparts.

The brave Don Luis de Velasco made a noble defense, and while trying to rally his men was mortally wounded. One hundred and thirty Spanish soldiers and several officers were killed, 400 were made prisoners.

The Marquis Gonzales, second in command in the Moro, was also killed. The British loss was only two officers and 30 men killed and wounded.

The possession of this fort cost 44 days' hard struggle from the time the first operations had been begun against it, during which the Spaniards lost a thousand men.

Its capture gave universal joy to the besieging troops.

On August 2d the second division of transports arrived from New York, from whence they had sailed on June 30th.

While en route, on July 21st, two French ships of the line, three frigates and six brigantines and sloops captured five of the transports containing 350 regulars of Anstruther's regiment and 150 Provincials.

On August 8th the party of Provincials which had been wrecked arrived from the Key.

After the capture of the Moro, no time was lost in attacking the town.

On August 10th a flag was sent in and the city summoned to surrender.

New batteries and field works were erected, and on August 11th, at daybreak, 45 pieces of heavy artillery and 8 mortars opened on the Spaniards.

Soon the Spanish fort Punta was silenced and a flag of truce hung out. A truce was then agreed upon, and two days later,

on August 13, 1762, Havana capitulated and the British flag was hoisted.

The siege had continued two months and eight days, but the American Provincials only got in at the close, the first detachment having been under fire but fourteen days and the second detachment but ten days.

With the capitulation of the city was surrendered a district 180 miles to the westward.

This conquest was, in itself, most considerable, and its consequences the most decisive.

It was a military achievement of the highest class, and exhibited in an enduring light the splendid courage and obstinate endurance of the British troops.

The Spanish fleet of nine sail of the line, taken in the harbor, and the loss of five more in the siege and many merchant ships, constituted an almost irreparable loss to that haughty monarchy.

The public plunder taken equalled the produce of a national subsidy.

During the whole siege the British lost 11 officers killed and 19 wounded; 279 enlisted men killed and 663 wounded, which, with 130 missing and those who died of the fever, amounted to 1,799.

The Provincials lost only seven, killed and wounded, but the number who died from disease was appalling.

The prize money distributed to the army, including Provincials, in five dividends, amounted to £368,092 11s. 6d.

The Commander-in-Chief received	£86,030	17s.	2d.
Every field officer received . . .	393	12	3½
Every Captain received . . .	129	3	6
Every Lieutenant received . . .	81	6	¾
Every Sergeant received . . .	6	5	¾
Every Corporal received . . .	4	15	¾
Every Private received . . .	2	17	¾

As soon as news of the capture was received in Europe, Spain consented to a peace and the preliminaries were signed

at Fontainebleau, November 3, 1762, and an armistice declared.

On November 23, 1762, the Rhode Island and other Provincial detachments returned to the Colonies from Cuba, broken down by disease and more than decimated by the climatic fevers.

Rhode Island had sent 187 men under Lieut.-Col. Christopher Hargill.

Eleven companies went from Connecticut under Colonel Phineas Lyman, with Israel Putman as Lieutenant-Colonel. In a diary kept during the siege by a Chaplain with the Connecticut Provincials, their number is given as 917.

Many names subsequently distinguished in the Revolution are found among these officers.

Roger Enos, Adjutant of the Connecticut regiment, afterward Colonel of a Connecticut volunteer regiment.

John Durkee, afterward Colonel 4th Regiment, Connecticut Continental Infantry of the Revolution, who died in service in 1782.

Elihu Humphrey, long a Captain of Connecticut Continentals.

Zebulon Butler, a Captain of the 7th Company, and afterward Colonel 5th Regiment Connecticut Continental Line.

Thomas Knowlton, a Second Lieutenant, who gave his life later on Harlem Heights, New York City, in September, 1776, when commanding the Rangers of General Washington's Army.

In looking over the rolls of these Connecticut companies we can estimate the extent of the losses in other regiments.

The 1st Company had 134 privates of whom 34 died in service.

The 2d Company had 106 men of whom 75, or about two-thirds, died.

The 3d Company had 93 men, 29 deaths.

The 4th Company had 91 men, 37 deaths.

The 5th Company had 90 men, 40 deaths.

The 6th Company had 80 men, 24 deaths.

The 7th Company had 59 men, 31 deaths.

The 8th Company had 91 men, 26 deaths.

The 9th Company had 92 men, 37 deaths.

The 10th Company did not go.

The 11th Company had 89 men, deaths not given.

The 12th Company had 76 men, 41 deaths.

The frightful losses experienced by the British-American forces in this eventful campaign are well illustrated in this table of Connecticut casualties.

In the regular British Army the 17th Foot, which had been a strong regiment, returned to New York with but 100 effectives.

On December 13, 1762, a British officer at Havana wrote concerning its capture, of which the following is an extract:—

“We are in possession of the largest and most valuable part of the Island. * * *

The Spanish inhabitants are curious about nothing; they are lazy and indolent; and if the island did not produce almost spontaneously, they would be without the necessaries of life. There is nothing in the shape of a garden, either for pleasure or use, in this large city, which contains about 40,000 inhabitants. Their common amusement is smoking segars and lolling in a calash drawn by one sorry mule, with a huge negro on his back and another behind the calash; in this manner they drive along at the rate of about two miles an hour; and whenever the Ave-Maria bell rings, they all stop and go to prayers, negroes, mules and Spaniards.

As to the ladies, they are mostly of the hue of the fairer Mulattoes in Carolina, some a good deal whiter, and many not so fair. They wear their hair without caps, and dress much in the squaw fashion; their garb is commonly a shift and some petticoats, (no stays), and a loose wrapper over their shoulders, whereby they become round-shouldered, and are entirely without that delicate taper waist which I so much admire in my fair country-women. People who can converse with them say they are very ignorant, and few of them have any smartness; most of them smoke segars and spit much, even when they do not smoke, which gives room for several conjectures. They

are very shy in company, and will scarce allow their hand to be touched.

As to our government here, it is entirely military. * * * We have neither lawyers nor law suits. Among us it is *sic volo, sic jubeo*.

We have no Sunday among the English ; as for the natives, they have Sunday every day, they are continually saying mass and carrying the Madonna round the town at night with two or three lanthorns under her petticoats.

We open a theatre to-morrow night, which exhibits once a week, Captain —— and some others, chief actors and managers.”

As before remarked the capture of Havana and contiguous territory compelled the Spanish Government to sue for peace.

Had it not been for the services of the Provincial regiments of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey, who were almost wholly native born Americans, the siege would have had to be raised. Their presence therefore, contributed to one of the most substantial and decisive victories of the last century.

The bones of hundreds of them lie in Cuban soil, unknown, uncared for, but the achievement in which they assisted procured peace and brought the entire Continent of North America under the English-speaking race. France relinquished all her rights in Canada and in the Mississippi. Spain relinquished Florida, and the Spanish seas were no longer claimed by that bigoted, cruel, and arbitrary power as the exclusive domain of Spain under the gift of the Pope.

The preliminaries of Fontainebleau were the dawn of a new era. The American Provincials taught the art of war and regular discipline by the war then ended, were soon to assert themselves in defense of principles which appealed to the judgment of mankind, and after an eight years war, from the Battle of Lexington in 1775, were to rise as an independent sovereignty in the family of nations and eventually become one of the mighty powers of the earth.

To our forefathers the war at the time was distressing, but

it brought them together, shoulder to shoulder, and taught them their power when united.

History, it has been said, repeats itself, and whoever has followed the movements of the American army in Cuba, which have terminated in the capture of Santiago and the Spanish forces defending that coast, can perceive that the Americans have experienced the same trials and difficulties, but it is to be hoped not to the same extent the losses from diseases which our ancestors experienced in the campaigns against Spain of 1741 and 1762.

THE OLD PROVIDENCE THEATRE.

BY HENRY L. GREENE.

Amateur performances were sometimes given in this old building and their financial proceeds devoted to charitable objects. In this connection the following letters will be found interesting. They were written by Christopher Rhodes Greene to his parents and were addressed to his father, the late Hon. Job Greene, *Greeneville* (now Centreville), Warwick.

“Providence Bank, 21st Octo. 1807.

“About three weeks since several young gentlemen of the first respectability in Town associated themselves (and assumed the name of the Thespian Club,) for the purpose of improving themselves in public speaking. This Society which has been undertaken with universal approbation, and whose first exhibition (on last Monday evening,) was crowned with universal applause, owes its existence to the spirited exertions of Benj’ Page Jr Esq and the less meritorious exertions of your son.

“The Tragedy of Douglas, a tragedy replete with sound morality, the most touching pathos, the most devoted filial affection, glowing with all the fire of genius, and embellished with all the graces of poetry was judiciously selected for our first exhibition. As there is no other place in Town adapted to exhibitions of this kind, we were compelled from urgent necessity to make use of the theatre. From this circumstance I was apprehensive that an incorrect account of our exhibition might reach you and I have thought proper to give you a general outline of our plan, and the benevolent objects of our institution. In order to have a select and respectable audience it was necessary that the tickets should be sold, and the money arising from such sales after defraying the incidental expenses of the exhibition is to be distributed to relieve the distresses of the poor of the Town. There were about three hundred people present at the Theatre on Monday evening and the amount of our expenses exceeded one hundred dollars. The balance received, about fifty dollars, remains for the purpose above mentioned.

“The part of Old Norval was taken by me. It was very pathetic and was so spoken as to gain not only the customary applause of clapping of hands, but that high applause of the heart which is more sincerely expressed by tears.”

Evidently the young man, he was then just twenty-one, doubted the approval of his parents in appearing on the stage of a theatre, hence the above rather apologetic letter. His next letter proved the correctness of his anticipations.

“Providence 10 November 1807

“I have this moment received your affectionate epistle of the 8th filled with the tenderest solicitude as to the consequences which might in your opinion result from my exhibiting in public. ‘Recitation is indeed a fascinating art; and under due restriction it improves the organs of speech, enables the possessor to express himself with elegance and precision, promotes ease in conversation and manners, expands the mind and elevates the soul.’

“To acquire in an innocent manner accomplishments so elegant, so useful, so noble, so worthy of a rational being, and which would enable us at the same time to do those deeds of charity which angels must smile to behold, were the laudable and benevolent motives which induced us to come before the public. They must I think obtain the approbation of every mind capable of feeling, of thinking, of reasoning with justice or impartiality, of every heart capable of perceiving the beauty of moral rectitude, or of enjoying the delightful sensations that result from the performance of virtuous actions. Such being their motives can any one who is acquainted with the individual characters of The Thespian Club, entertain a single fearful apprehension that they will for a moment deviate from the path of rectitude or be drawn into dissipation, depravity or ruin? Can the art which *displays the beauty of virtue and exposes the deformity of vice* in a manner so deeply impressive, be productive of consequences so pernicious and destructive? Consult your own heart as I have mine, and you will not long deliberate for a conclusion.

“The Club I believe will not exhibit more than once more. You were mistaken when you said that Capt Page was a member. It is a son of his. A son of Col Wm Peck, Marshal of R. I., and W. R. Danforth Esq, Clerk of the Supreme Jud' Court are also members.

“I shall soon send for your perusal Rev Mr Home's tragedy of Douglas 'a performance which as long as classical elegance shall be admired, or the feelings of humanity exist, as long as virtue or religion shall have an interest in the heart of man, will retain its station in the first rank of dramatic literature.' What mother is there who would not wish her son to resemble the truly excellent amiable, affectionate and heroic Young Norval? Virtue so exalted and amiable, filial affection so ardent and sincere do not simply gain the cold assent of the understanding but they irresistibly command the entire approbation, the enthusiastic admiration of the heart and soul. 'For,' says Dr Blair, '*we must love what is amiable!*'

“Your affectionate son

“CHRIS^R R. GREENE”

WHO WERE THE RHODE ISLAND SOLDIERS OF THE HAVANA EXPEDITION OF 1762 ?

The interesting and valuable paper read before the Historical society at its last July quarterly meeting by the Hon. Asa Bird Gardiner, LL. D., and printed in this issue of its publication, awakened much interest to know the names of the Rhode Island officers and men that took part in the Havana Expedition of 1762. With the view of obtaining the desired information for the benefit of the citizens of the State, His Excellency, Elisha Dyer, addressed our ambassador in London, the Hon. John Hay, a letter of inquiry, the result of which appears in the following correspondence :—

AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON, August 29th, 1898.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 7th ultimo relative to the contingent furnished by the Colony of Rhode Island in 1762 for the British expedition to Havana in that year, I have the honour to enclose herewith for your information copies of two notes which I have received from the Foreign Office on that subject, and from which you will observe that, for reasons therein set forth, there are no pay lists nor muster rolls among the archives of the War Office at the Public Record Office.

Should any further information reach me as a result of the inquiries now being made at the Colonial Office, I shall lose no time in sending it to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

To

His Excellency

The Hon^{ble} Elisha Dyer,

Governor of Rhode Island.

[COPY.]

FOREIGN OFFICE, August 4, 1898.

Your Excellency,

I duly referred to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for War the request, contained in your note of the 18th ultimo, for information as to the names of the Officers and Men of the Contingent furnished by the Colony of Rhode Island for the Havana Expedition of 1762.

I have now received a letter from the War Office, stating that the subject is receiving every attention, but that it is very doubtful whether the required information can be obtained.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

(Signed) SALISBURY.

His Excellency

The Honourable John Hay,
&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

FOREIGN OFFICE, August 22, 1898.

Your Excellency,

In continuation of the Note which I had the honour to address to you on the 4th instant, concerning the names of the Officers and Men of the Contingent furnished by the Colony of Rhode Island for the Havana Expedition of 1762, I beg leave to inform you that I learn from the Secretary of State for War that after a search in the Records of the War Office, it has been discovered that the "Rhode Island Provincials" were a Colonial corps paid out of Colonial funds, and this being so there are no Pay Lists or Muster Rolls, et cetera, concerning them in the War Office documents which are preserved at the Public Record Office.

As it is not unlikely that the required information may be contained in the Colonial correspondence for the period, Lord Lansdowne has caused the matter to be referred to the Colonial Office, together with a copy of the enclosed statement, which contains all the information on the subject in the possession of the War Office.

I shall not fail to communicate to Your Excellency the result of the enquiries instituted by the Colonial Office.

I have the honour to be, &c.,
(For the Marquis of Salisbury)

(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

His Excellency

The Honourable John Hay,
&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

RHODE ISLAND PROVINCIALS.

In the "N. American Correspondence 1758 to 1764," there is a letter from Sir Jeffrey Amherst, Commander-in-Chief in North America, dated New York, 12th May, 1762, in which he forwards a List shewing the "State of the Provincial Troops for the year 1762."* This List is a numerical one only, and shews that the Province of Rhode Island "Voted to be Raised" 666 Troops, of whom 207 were for the Havana Expedition, and 459 for "Crown point, Niagara, Oswego, and the other posts to the Westward."

A later letter dated 20th July, 1762, forwards a Duplicate list of the Transports for the first Division, dated New York June, 1762, which shews that 30 Rhode Islanders were embarked on the "Boscawen" (Master's name Forbes), 137 on the "Three Sisters" (Master's name Maltby) and that the remaining 40 Rhode Islanders were put on board either the "Intrepid" or "Chesterfield" Man-of-War.

In none of Sir Jeffrey Amherst's letters are any of the Rhode Islanders mentioned by name.

NOTE.—Presumably these troops were paid by the colony, and therefore no pay lists would be forwarded to this country.

To the Editor:—

In the July number of the Rhode Island Historical Society's quarterly (p. 80) are queries as to the location of Fenner's Square and of Theodore Foster's office in 1786. Fenner's

Square was the land bounded by North Main Street, Market Square, North Water (now Canal) Street, and a gangway. [Record of Deeds in City Record Office, vol. 48, p. 10.]

Theodore Foster's office, according to an advertisement in the *United States Chronicle* of July 13, 1786, was on Westminster Street, opposite his residence, which was at the northeast corner of Westminster Street and what is now Eddy Street. [Record of Deeds, vol. 30, p. 202.]

CLARENCE S. BRIGHAM.

BROWN UNIVERSITY,
Sept. 12, 1898.

EDITORIAL NOTES AND CULLINGS.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Mr. Louis Hasbrouck Von Sakler, of Van Deusen, Berkshire County, Mass., has addressed the following inquiries to the Rhode Island Historical Society:—

“Can you identify the following-mentioned islands? Colonial Documents of New York, I., 565, ‘Abraham Pieterssen of Haarlem took possession of the island of Quetenis, in front of Sloops Bay, for the Dutch West India Company in 1636;’ II., 134, ‘Similar to the preceding—Island of Queteurs, in front of Sloops Bay and Pequators River;’ II., 409, ‘Special possession of Abraham Pietersen of Harrlem, still living, hath on the island of Quetenesse, in Narricanese Bay, near Rhode Island, and again on another island, above and about the Pequot River, called by the English—The Dutchman’s Island.’ Any information and an early answer will be fully appreciated.” The volumes referred to are in the society’s library, and can be consulted by persons interested.

CORRECTION.

In the obituary notice of Prof. John Pierce, Vol. VI., p. 56, 10th line from foot, read “hand telephone,” instead of “word telephone.”

LIST OF THE VESSELS, THEIR DESCRIPTION AND TONNAGE, BELONGING TO THE PORT OF PROVIDENCE THE 20TH DAY OF JUNE, 1791.

No.	BY WHOM OWNED.	VESSELS DESCRIBED.	Full tonnage & 95th parts.	VESSELS' NAMES.
1.	Messrs. Brown & Francis.....	Ship.....	958 14	Pres. Washington.
2.	do.	do.	348 ..	Gen'l Washington.
3.	do.	do.	280 88	Warren.
4.	do.	do.	250 ..	Hope.
5.	Messrs. Clarke & Nightingale... do.	do.	230 28	Providence.
6.	do.	do.	159 71	Lark.
7.	Messrs. Brown & Benson do.	do.	186 57	Hope.
8.	do.	do.	208 ..	Hamilton.
9.	Mr. Cyprian Sterrey..... do.	do.	161 24	Enterprise.
10.	do.	do.	137 19	Betsey.
11.	Messrs. Jos. & Wm. Russell..... do.	do.	146 37	Tristam.
12.	Messrs. Brown, Rogers & Brown, do.	do.	160 73	Union (Sold).
			3,227 32	
13.	Brown & Benson Brig.....	Brig.....	163 66	Commerce.
14.	do.	do.	162 73	Rising Sun.
15.	Messrs. Philip & Z. Allen do.	do.	166 56	Abigail.
16.	do.	do.	117 90	Lydia.
17.	do.	do.	110 90	Nancy.
18.	Welcome Arnold do.	do.	111 17	Rebeckah.
19.	do.	do.	101 93	Neptune.
20.	do.	do.	168 75	Harriott.
21.	Messrs. Brown & Benson do.	do.	160 8	Harmony.
22.	Thos. Loyd Halsey..... do.	do.	141 77	Fanny.
23.	do.	do.	104 ..	Sally.
24.	do.	do.	151 30	Harriott.
25.	William Holuroyd..... do.	do.	129 72	Friendship.
26.	John Corlis do.	do.	130 ..	Liberty.
27.	do.	do.	103 ..	Sukey.
28.	Edward Thurber do.	do.	161 21	Mary.
29.	Joseph & Wm. Russell..... do.	do.	120 ..	Ranger.
30.	James Graves do.	do.	78 26	Betsey.
31.	Mowry Smith..... do.	do.	90 33	Nancy.
32.	Messrs. Young & Brown..... do.	do.	112 51	Betsey.
33.	Gideon Bailey..... do.	do.	126 19	Sally.
34.	Messrs. Fenner & White..... do.	do.	92 31	Clinton.
35.	Stephen Dexter do.	do.	107 36	Betsey.
36.	do.	do.	139 ..	Dolphin.
37.	Messrs. Brown & Francis..... do.	do.	80 86	Mercury.
38.	do.	do.	86 55	Sophia.
39.	Messrs. Clarke & Nightingale ... do.	do.	99 84	Prudent.
40.	do.	do.	115 21	Polly.
41.	do.	do.	97 54	Chance.
42.	Joseph Martin..... do.	do.	84 ..	Betsey.
43.	Messrs. Treadwell & Soule..... do.	do.	140 ..	Paramaribo.
44.	Messrs. Wards & Brothers..... do.	do.	160 ..	Tismigistus.
45.	Abijah Potter do.	do.	130 ..	Fame.
46.	Messrs. Brown & Francis do.	do.	83 19	Friendship.
			4,128 48	

so that it became to us a pleasant, educational home, and when we, who remain, look back upon the days we passed there, a flood of happy recollections rush in upon us, and in our memories we live again our youthful experiences and recall our former innocent pleasures and delights. And now to the dear old boys and girls, whose youthful forms this pleasing task has brought before my mental vision, and who have seemed to be really present among my hearers, I must say "Good night, sweethearts. The school's dismissed."

HAVANA EXPEDITION OF 1762.

RHODE ISLAND CONTINGENT THEREOF.

Since the publication in the October Quarterly, 1898 (p. 192), of a correspondence relating to the above subject, the following communications have been received and are hereby submitted to our readers :—

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &c.,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
PROVIDENCE, October 15, 1898.

Dear Anos Perry, Secretary,
Rhode Island Historical Society,
Providence, R. I.

Dear Sir: I beg leave to enclose letter from the Hon. Henry White in relation to the names of officers and men who formed a contingent furnished by Rhode Island to the British expedition of 1762 to Havana.

I presume this is in reply to the letter which I sent you sometime in July last.

Very respectfully,
ELISHA DYER,
Governor.

AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON,
September 27th, 1898.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Hay's letter of August 27th, in reply to yours of July 7th last, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency copies of notes which we have received from the Marquis of Salisbury relative to the names of the officers and men who formed the contingent furnished by Rhode Island to the British Expedition of 1762 to Havana.

Upon the receipt of Lord Salisbury's note of 24th instant I at once communicated with Mr. B. F. Stevens, a copy of whose reply I also enclose, together with the Memorial of Colonel Christopher Hargill, referred to therein, which I trust will be of interest to you.

I much regret that this Embassy has been unable to obtain the information concerning the history of our State for which you asked.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

HENRY WHITE.

To his Excellency,

The Hon. Elisha Dyer,

Governor of Rhode Island.

[COPY.]

FOREIGN OFFICE,

September 6, 1898.

Your Excellency,

With reference to my Note of the 22nd ultimo I have the honour to inform you that I learn from the Secretary of State for the Colonies that a volume in the Record Office entitled "Havannah 1762-63" containing the correspondence connected with the capture of that city has been referred to, but though the Rhode Island Contingent of Two hundred and seven men is mentioned in it collectively, no names are given. Two other volumes entitled "Rhode Island 1762-67" and

“1698-1782” have also been searched, but do not contain anything relating to this subject.

As however forty of these troops appear to have been shipped on two men of war, the “Intrepid” and the “Chesterfield,” the muster books for 1762 of these ships might, Mr. Chamberlain suggests, if they have been preserved, furnish some of the names required.

An enquiry has accordingly been addressed to the Admiralty, the result of which I shall have much pleasure in communicating to your Excellency.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest consideration,

Your Excellency's most obedient,

humble servant,

(For the Marquess of Salisbury)

(Sgd.) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

His Excellency,

The Honourable

JOHN HAY,

&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

FOREIGN OFFICE,

September 24, 1898.

Sir,

In continuation of the Note which I had the honour to address to Mr. Hay on the 6th instant, I now beg leave to acquaint you with the results of the enquiry instituted by the Admiralty respecting the contingent furnished by the State of Rhode Island to the Havana Expedition in 1762.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are informed by the Public Record Office that no Pay Lists or Muster Rolls of the Provincial troops who took part in this expedition are preserved, and beyond the fact that certain “Provincial Troops” were carried on the “Chesterfield” and “Intrepid,” the logs of those vessels give no more specific information.

An attempt has been made to identify the detachment of Rhode Island Provincials from any allusions or references contained in the Colonial and Military correspondence of the period, but without success.

No private collection of papers is known which would be likely to give the information required except the manuscripts of the Royal Institution in Albemarle Street, and with regard to these the Public Record Office suggest that reference might with advantage be made to Mr. B. F. Stevens, the American despatch Agent and well-known expert, who is believed to have made a complete examination of their contents.

The Record Office add that there can be little doubt that Sir Jeffrey Amherst was furnished with more or less detailed lists of these Provincial troops by the Colonial Governors, but as they were paid by their respective States the original Pay Lists would not have been preserved amongst the War Office Records.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest consideration, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Sgd.) SALISBURY.

Henry White, Esq.
&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DESPATCH AGENCY,
4, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, W. C.,
LONDON, 27 September, 1898

Hon. Henry White,
American Chargé d'Affaires,
123, Victoria Street, S. W.

Dear Mr. White: I have received your letter of this date and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to see this exceedingly interesting correspondence with reference to the Rhode Island soldiers employed on the Havana Expedition of 1762.

My own notes upon the American Manuscripts in the Record Office do not show fuller information than that already communicated to you through the Foreign Office.

The papers in the Royal Institution are the Headquarter's papers of the British Commanders-in-Chief, Generals Howe, Clinton and Carleton, and of course these papers of the Revolution are of a much later date, being from 1775 to 1783.

I exceedingly regret that I cannot suggest any likely place where the names in detail of Lieut. Colonel Christopher Hargill, two Captains and subordinate officers, and 207 enlisted soldiers can be found.

In my search to-day I have found a memorial of Hargill to General Sir Guy Carleton dated in 1783 which is a very curious item of Rhode Island history and I take pleasure in inclosing a copy for the acceptance of the Governor of Rhode Island. William Wanton who signed the certificate at the end of the Memorial was the Governor of Rhode Island. I return the several papers herewith.

Always yours faithfully,

(sd) B. F. STEVENS.

To His Excellency General Sir Guy Carleton, Knight of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Commander in Chief, &c., &c., &c.

The Memorial of Christopher Hargill Humbly sheweth, That your Memorialist having already had the honor of representing to Your Excellency under the 18th of September 1762 that the respectable Rank he held the last War as Major of a Regiment of Provincials raised by the Colony of Rhode Island, serving at the reduction of Canada, and as Lieut. Colonel at the Siege & conquest of the Havannah rendered him from his refusal to take any appointment in the Troops raised by that Colony in the late War with Great Britain an Object of suspicion, and the avowal of his Disapprobation of those measures brought upon him the Resentment of the Assembly, who banished him into the Interior parts of the Colony, and for a Considerable time confined him in a Jail. He now further begs leave to represent, that the subsistence which

has been granted by the bounty of Government to your Memorialist of a Dollar a Day, has been essentially serviceable in relieving him from many wants which he Otherwise must have Experienced. But as your Memorialist is Advanced in Life, and as his Constitution is greatly impaired ; He Humbly requests Permission in consideration of his former services, as well as his sufferings in the Cause of Government, to represent to your Excellency, That his subsistence has with the greatest Oeconomy been scarcely sufficient to defray the Expences of his Board &c. and as he Intends for Nova Scotia, he therefore Humbly Pray's your Excellency will be pleased to allow such a proportion thereof to be advanced him, as your Excellency may think suitable and proper, to defray the expences he must unavoidably incur to render himself comfortable, and as in Duty bound he will ever Pray.

CHRISTOPHER HARGILL.
(*sic.*)

New York, June 2nd, 1783.

The Facts containd in this Memorial are true, and I do verily believe the Memorialist to merit a further [Allowance] from Government ; and for that Purpose I do presume to recommend Him.

WILLIAM WANTEDON

New York, 3d June, 178 [3].

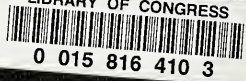
EDITORIAL NOTES AND CULLINGS.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM SOUGHT IN THESE PLANTATIONS A CENTURY AND A HALF AGO.

The following copy of a draft to amend the law concerning the election of Justices of the Peace, and other commissioned officers, was found in the ledger marked "John Angel His Book," which was preserved by Moses Brown and given to this society with other papers in 1897. There is nothing to indicate the authorship of the proposed amendment. By referring



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